Intro to Microsoft Excel

We will be using Microsoft Excel in order to do statistical calculations. Note the similarity between this and the graphing calculator.

First of all, in cell B1, type `scores`. Then, directly below this, enter the following data (one piece of data per cell):

78, 82, 95, 85, 73, 99, 95, 89, 90, 86, 85, 23, 92, 80, 84, 85

After entering the data, in cell A19, type `median`. After that, in cell B19, type `=median(B2:B17)`. Do similar things for the mode and sum in rows 20 and 21, respectively.

Unfortunately, the mean is a little different. The command is `average`. (Bill Gates and his cohorts need to retake Math 1!) In cell A22, type `mean`, then in cell B22, type `=average(B2:B17)`.

Now for the next column. In cell C1, type `deviations`. Then, in cell C2, type `=B2-B$22`. The `$` is a referencing tool: Instead of typing in the commands to subtract the mean from each score, we will be able to drag the lower right hand corner of cell C2 all the way to the bottom of cell C17.

After doing this, just as before, find the median, mode, sum, and mean of the numbers in C2 through C17.

Now we get to do another column! In cell D1, type `absolute deviations`. Then, in cell D2, type `=abs(C2)`. The rest of the instructions for this column are similar to the previous column. (The mean for this column is the *mean absolute deviation* of the original data.)

We are almost done: Only one column to go! In cell E1, type `square deviations`. Then, in cell E2, type `=(C2)^2`. The rest of the instructions for this column are similar to the previous column. (The mean for this column is the *variance* of the original data.)

The mean absolute deviation and variance are methods of measuring spread. You do *not* need to be familiar with these terms for this particular class.